



SCHOOL EMPLOYER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 10, 2004

12 Noon to 2:30 p.m.

**Sacramento Regional Office
Gateway Oaks, Suite 133**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Alex Spitsyn
Amy Adams
Beth Qualle
Brenda Boothe
Carol Cook
Carolyn Nielsen
Cindy Davis
Darrell Early
Deepsa Desai
Francie Murphee
Janice Hassler
Joanne Snow
John Moore
Johnna Raju

Karen Wiker
Lisa Hotchkiss
Kim Deadmore
Pam Fowler
Paula Driscoll
Ramona Coker
Rick Duran
Sharie Ortega
Sharon Marshall
Tammy Britt
Deb Smith
Maria Jett
Gretchen Mross
Elizabeth Borghi

Theresa Cox
Michael Hardin
Karin Hadynski
Judy Sanders
Anthony Suine
SalliAnne Maliguine
Dawn Evans
Pat Dyba
Lori McGartland
Ann Music
Karen Neuwald

MEETING LOCATION REQUEST

Members indicated that they liked the location of today's meeting at the Regional Office (Gateway Oaks) versus Headquarters (Lincoln Plaza) and asked if future meetings could be held at Gateway Oaks. Parking was much easier to find (and no charge). It was suggested that the room set up be with chairs in a square so everyone can see rather than classroom style. (After the meeting, Ann Music explored this possibility and noted room—Suite 133—was booked solid for February; the Regional Office will be moving into its new location across from Headquarters in the spring of 2005. Ann sent a note to Dave Walton of CalSTRS to notify him that this was not a possibility for future meetings.) The location of future meetings will remain as scheduled.

ANNUAL EMPLOYER EDUCATIONAL FORUM

Lori McGartland spoke briefly about last month's annual forum held in Anaheim. The forum was well-received with over 580 participants.

CalPERS/CalSTRS ELIGIBILITY

Last meeting, the question came up regarding whether an employee had to be currently employed with a school district or have previous county school employment to be eligible to make an election. This is being researched by our legal department. Another

question raised was whether part-time employees were eligible for election—yes. This applies to part time certificated employees. Discussion followed regarding CalSTRS' and CalPERS' interpretations of the law. It was agreed that a meeting would take place between the two agencies to get a uniform answer on some of the issues. Once an agreement has been reached, a memo will come out documenting the findings.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Karen Neuwald, Division Chief of the Office of Governmental Affairs, was today's speaker on legislative actions. Karen provided handouts (see handouts) of the latest legislative updates. Karen spoke briefly about the "Alternative Retirement Program (SB 1105) for state employees. In this new program, a new state employee during the first two years of employment will be required to make contributions to an alternative retirement program administered by Department of Personnel Administration (DPA). After two years, the employee shall begin contributing to CalPERS and earning service credit. After a total of four years, the employees have the option of leaving the money in the Savings Plus Program (DPA), or transferring the funds to CalPERS (thus earning service credit for the first two years) or requesting a refund with DPA of the funds that were in the ARP.

Another bill (SB 1106) was discussed. This bill establishes the Pension Obligation Bond Committee which has the authority to issue pension bonds.

ACES PARTICIPANT INQUIRY ENHANCEMENTS

Research has been done regarding adding a field to ACES Participant Inquiry to let you know if an employee has qualified for CalPERS membership due to prior school, Board of Governors of Community Colleges, or State Dept. of Education employment. This will help schools identify those certificated employees who should be offered a CalPERS election. After suggestions from the attendees, we will also pursue a flag that will identify certificated employees who have made a CalPERS election. Updates will be given at the next meeting. If anyone has examples of problems where they feel data in ACES Participant Inquiry is inaccurate, Anthony Suine would like to receive them.

NOTIFICATION LETTER (PERS-BAS-62)/RETIREMENT ROLL (FOLLOW-UP)

School employers should be receiving an application for retirement form from their employee who is retiring. The employer should complete the section entitled, Employer Certification. This is the employer's first notice that the employee is retiring. However, if the employee does not furnish his/her employer the form, CalPERS sends out a notification letter (PERS-BAS-62) to employers when the employee is placed on retirement roll. Unit codes are not always on the retirement roll letter as it depends on what information the system has stored. An example of these letters is in your CalPERS' Procedures Manual. Some county schools indicated that they do not receive retirement roll letters. We will be checking into this to see why everyone is not receiving this information.

AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2005

- Nolan Decision
- Employer Pick Up and Resolutions
- ACES, Payroll edits
- HR 743
- Notification letters not being received
- Risk Pooling
- Electronic Fund Transfer Direct Deposits
- Legislation

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.